

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of enhancing an enzyme linked immunoassay (ELISA) reaction, comprising:

placing reactants and a medium for the ELISA reaction into a reaction vessel, wherein said reaction vessel comprises a device for enhancing said ELISA reaction, said device further comprising means for applying energy;

transducing energy added to the reaction vessel into thermal energy;

applying the thermal energy to said reactants or to said medium in the reaction vessel or to a combination thereof;

altering a molecular state of said one or more of said reactants upon application of the thermal energy thereby increasing an energy state of said altered reactant(s); and

increasing formation of product of the ELISA reaction upon increase of the energy state of said reactant(s) thereby enhancing the ELISA reaction.

Claims 2-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said added energy is electromagnetic energy or mechanical energy.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein said electromagnetic energy is generated by a source which provides radiant energy with a wavelength from about 200 nm to about 20,000 nm.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method of claim 5, wherein said electromagnetic energy is radiofrequency or microwave.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of claim 5, wherein said mechanical energy is a pressure wave.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said molecular state is temperature, molecular vibration, molecular rotation, or a combination thereof.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein altering said molecular state alters molecular configuration of said reactant(s).

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 10, wherein said altered molecular configuration is a transition state of said reactant(s).

12-20 (canceled).